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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/029,960	12/21/2001	Shell S. Simpson	1000-7659-1	5419
7590	08/15/2005		EXAMINER	
			PYZOWA, MICHAEL J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2137	

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/029,960	SIMPSON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Michael Pyzocha	2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06242003</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Epstein (US 6601172).

As per claims 1, 13 and 21, Epstein discloses accessing imaging data via a network and electronically notarizing the imaging data (see column 4 lines 20-22).

As per claims 2 and 14, Epstein discloses the step of accessing imaging data comprises receiving a document with a network-based notarization service (see column 5 lines 15-47).

As per claims 3 and 15, Epstein discloses the step of accessing imaging data comprises accessing a document in a user personal imaging repository with a network-based notarization service (see column 5 lines 15-47).

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As per claims 4 and 16, Epstein discloses the step of accessing imaging data comprises accessing imaging data through use of an imaging extension (see column 5 lines 15-47).

As per claims 5 and 17, Epstein fails to disclose the imaging extension comprises part of a user browser. However, Official Notice is taken that at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a browser to access images. Motivation to do so would have been to allow users to browse through many images with current software.

As per claims 6 and 18, Epstein discloses the imaging extension comprises part of the network-based notarization service (see column 5 lines 15-47).

As per claims 7, 19 and 22, Epstein discloses the step of electronically notarizing imaging data comprises modifying the imaging data by adding at least one of a stamp and a digital signature to the imaging data (see column 4 lines 20-22).

As per claims 8-9, Epstein discloses storing the modified imaging data in a user personal imaging repository (see column 4 lines 20-22).

As per claims 10, 20 and 23, Epstein discloses the step of electronically notarizing imaging data comprises generating a notarized certificate (see column 4 lines 45-48).

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As per claims 11-12, Epstein discloses storing the certificate in a user personal imaging repository (see column 4 lines 55-57).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Haber et al (US 5136646), Durst et al (US 5022080), Pasieka (US 6587945) and Cullen et al (US 6592629) disclose methods for imaging notarization.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Pyzocha whose telephone number is (571) 272-3875. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am - 4:30pm first Fridays of the bi-week off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell can be reached on (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MJP

**ANDREW CALDWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**